

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/667,074

Applicant(s)

LEE, CHUN-LIANG

Examiner

Ryan M. Stiglic

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to petition filed June 30, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-13 are pending and have been examined.
2. Claims 1-13 are allowed.

Priority

3. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). In light of the Petition for an Untimely Delayed Foreign Priority Claim under 37 C.F.R. §1.55(c) granted August 2, 2006 applicant is entitled to a foreign priority of April 10, 2003. As such prior art considered under the dates provided by 35 U.S.C. §102 must predate April 10, 2003.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Examiner has done a thorough search and found no prior art of record, alone or in combination, that teaches or fairly suggests the limitations set forth in the system of claim 1 or the method of claim 8. Huang et al. (US 6,931,475) represents the closest prior art of record in that both the claimed invention and the disclosure of Huang relate to associating a particular server with I/O peripherals upon the pressing of a button. The disclosure of Huang generally discloses an I/O unit access switching system, comprising:

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1. a plurality of servers (Fig. 2, 200) each comprising a control module (Fig. 2, 210) and an intelligent platform management interface (IPMI) having a baseboard management controller (BMC) (interpreted as processor 220 of Fig. 2);
2. at least one input device (col. 3, ll. 10-11);
 - at least one output device (col. 3, ll. 10-11).

The disclosure of Huang fails to teach and/or fairly suggest a switching device comprising a microprocessor unit, an input function switching unit and an output function switching unit.

Instead Huang discloses a Management board (Fig. 2, 260) that accepts interrupts from the control module and responds by sending an encoded control signal to input/output function switching unit in each server so that peripheral devices may control/monitor the selected server.

Therefore since the switching devices are located within the servers and not in a stand-alone unit and since the teachings of Huang do not suggest placing the switching units in a stand-alone unit, claims 1-13 of the instant application are considered allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bobbitt et al. discloses a KVM card, for a blade server, that allows a plurality of server cards to share peripheral devices. The disclosure of Bobbitt fails to disclose or teach each

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server card having a control module and baseboard management controller that allow a user to select a server card to control and/or monitor.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan M. Stiglic whose telephone number is 571.272.3641. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (6:00-3:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rehana Perveen can be reached on 571.272.3676. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RMS


REHANA PERVEEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
8/15/06